

Livestock/CAFO Working Group

Charge from Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee

Working Group Members

Charlie McKinney (Chair) - Department of Ecology
Kirk Cook - Department of Agriculture
Dr. Kefy Desta - WSU
Elizabeth Sanchez - Yakama Nation
Heather Wendt - Benton Conservation District
Helen Reddout - CARE
Jaclyn Ford - Department of Agriculture
Jason Sheehan - Dairy Federation
Jim Newhouse - South Yakima Conservation District
Laurie Crowe - South Yakima Conservation District
Patricia Newhouse - Citizen
Steve George - Yakima County Farm Bureau
Stuart Turner - Turner & Co., Inc.
Ali Sedighi - Yakima County Staff Support (Not a member)

Meetings/Calls Dates

Meeting: Thursday, April 4, 2013, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Location: Radio KDNA, Granger, WA

Participants

Charlie McKinney (Chair) - Department of Ecology
Jason Sheehan - Dairy Federation
Heather Wendt - Benton Conservation District
Jim Dyjak - Concerned Citizens of the Yakama Nation
Steve George - Yakima County Farm Bureau
Kathleen Rogers - Citizen
Larry Fendell - Citizen
Doug Moore - Community Association for Restoration of the Environment
Ali Sedighi - Yakima County staff support
Don Gatchalian - Yakima County staff support

Key Discussion Points

- The process for identification of existing and alternate BMPs and regulatory requirements (voluntary and mandatory actions) was discussed. The group decided that this process, along with an effectiveness study, should be performed by a qualified consultant. Yakima County will prepare a draft Scope of Work and will send it to the Livestock/CAFO, Workgroup members for approval. Based on this Scope of Work, the Workgroup's

funding request will be submitted to the GWAC during the April 18th meeting for consideration.

- The group will be in touch with Data Workgroup for gathering data, performing data gap analysis, and long-term monitoring plan
- Dr. Robert Stevens, retired soil scientist from Washington State University's Prosser Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, will be invited as the guest speaker to the next meeting (May 2, 2013) to discuss findings from his long experience with groundwater nitrate contamination and methods for investigating. Charlie McKinney will call him to check on his availability to speak at the next Livestock/CAFO Workgroup meeting on May 2nd. Invitation will be sent to the Irrigated Agriculture and RCIMD Workgroups for this meeting.
- Charlie McKinney will discuss the possibility of having periodic joint meetings with the Irrigated Agriculture and RCIMD Workgroups in the next GWAC meeting.
- Steve George talked about developing a protocol for Workgroup meetings. This will be discussed in the next GWAC meeting.
- It was suggested that the GWMA should create a method to answer public's questions and concerns (e.g. a customer service-type phone number) regarding GWMA Workgroup meetings. This will be discussed in the next GWAC meeting.

Resources Requested

- Invite Dr. Robert Stevens, retired soil scientist from Washington State University's Prosser Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, as the guest speaker to the next meeting (May 2, 2013) to discuss nitrate contamination.
- Invite Irrigated Agriculture and RCIMD Workgroups to have a joint meeting in May
- Coordinate data collection and gap analysis with Irrigated Agriculture and RCIMD Workgroups

Recommendations for GWAC

- Hold periodic joint meetings with the Irrigated Agriculture and RCIMD Workgroups
- Develop a protocol for Workgroup meetings. It can be less formal than the GWAC meeting protocol but need some procedure on how to address public participation
- Create a method to answer public's questions and concerns (e.g. a customer service-type phone number) regarding GWMA.

Deliverables/Products Status

- Yakima County will develop a Scope of Work for Nitrate Regulatory and BMPs and based on this Scope of Work, the Workgroup's funding request will be submitted to the GWAC in the April 18th meeting for consideration. The draft Scope of Work will be presented to the Irrigated Ag Workgroup for their input during their May 11th meeting.

Proposed Next Steps

- Go through the work plan and evaluate the progress of the Workgroup
- Discuss the possibility of joint meetings with the other Workgroups